

Remarks

I. Status of the Claims

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2, 11-15, 19, 37, 47, 56, 65, 66 and 92-96 are pending in the application, with claim 2 being the sole independent claim. Claims 1, 3-10, 16-18, 20-36, 38-46, 48-55, 57-64 and 67-91 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 92-96 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

II. Support for New Claims

Support for new claim 92 can be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 20, line 13 through page 21, line 5. Support for new claims 93 and 94 can be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 21, lines 13-14. Support for new claims 95 and 96 can be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 33, lines 20-30.

III. Amendment to the Specification

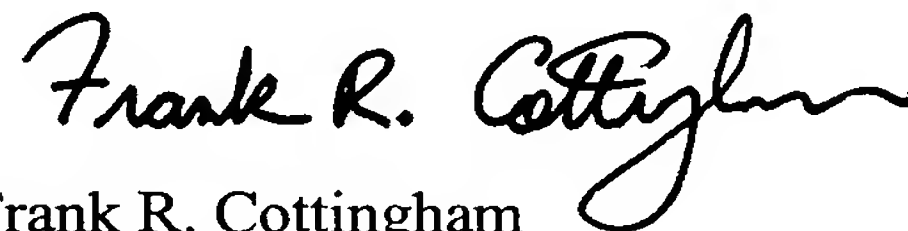
Applicants have amended the paragraph captioned "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" to specify that the present application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/606,314, filed June 29, 2000, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/023,790, filed February 13, 1998. The amendment therefore introduces no new matter.

IV. Conclusion

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for immediate examination. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Frank R. Cottingham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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